UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.157/PC/22
19 March 1992

Original: ENGLISH

WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Preparatory Committee
Second session
Geneva, 30 March-10 April 1992
Item 11 of the provisional agenda

REPORT ON STUDIES AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE

Other meetings related to the preparatory process of the World Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 46/116, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to the Preparatory Committee on progress made on meetings that have been organized under the auspices of the United Nations human rights programme pursuant to Assembly resolution 45/155 (para. 4 V (b)).

2. The present report contains a list of meetings, those organized by the Centre for Human Rights and those held by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to which the Centre for Human Rights has been invited, of direct concern to the preparatory process for the World Conference. It includes both meetings which have already been held in accordance with the mandate set up by the General Assembly and meetings which are scheduled to be held.

3. Meetings which have already been held for the purposes of the World Conference include, in chronological order:

(a) World Congress on Human Rights (New Delhi, December 1990). The report of the Congress was submitted by the International Service for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, and is available in document A/CONF.157/PC/6/Add.7;

(b) Nordic Seminar on Human Rights (Laugarvatn, Iceland, 9-10 June 1991). The Seminar was organized by the Nordic Institutes of Human Rights. The report was submitted by the Government of Iceland and is available in document A/CONF.157/PC/7;

(c) Training Course on the Handling of Human Rights Information and Documentation for Library Staff (Geneva, October 1991). The Course was organized by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, of Lund, Sweden, co-sponsored by the United Nations Library at Geneva and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in cooperation with several intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The report will be published jointly by the co-sponsors in the spring of 1992;

(d) International Workshop on National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (Paris, 7-9 October 1991). The Workshop was held at the invitation of the Government of France and in cooperation with the French National Consultative Commission on Human Rights. The report of the Workshop is available in document E/CN.4/1992/43 and Add.1 and 2;

(e) Regional Seminar of Experts on Human Rights, Democracy, and Economic and Social Development (Santiago de Chili, 10-13 December 1991). The Seminar was organized by the Centre for Human Rights at the invitation of the Government of Chile. The report of the Seminar will be issued in spring 1992 as a publication of the Centre;

(f) European Conference on International Human Rights Standards (Barcelona, Spain, 13-17 January 1992). The report of the Conference, which was co-sponsored by the Centre for Human Rights, the City of Barcelona and the United Nations Association of Spain, is a forthcoming publication of the Centre for Human Rights;

(g) Workshop on Global Strategies for Achieving Fairness in the Courts: Domestic Violence (Geneva, 5 February 1992). The Workshop was organized by the University of Calgary Group for Research and Education in Human Rights, with the participation of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights and the International Commission of Jurists. A report on the Workshop will be issued by summer 1992.

4. Meetings for the purposes of the preparatoy process for the World Conference which are being planned or to which invitations have been received include, in chronological order:

(a) Technical Conference on Practical Experience in the Realization of Sustainable and Environmentally Sound Self-Development by Indigenous Peoples (Santiago de Chili, 18-22 May 1992). The Conference will be organized by the Centre for Human Rights at the invitation of the Government of Chile; the report of the Conference will be prepared by the Centre;

(b) Conference on Regional Systems of Human Rights Protection in Africa, America and Europe (Strasbourg, France, 15-19 June 1992). The Conference will be organized by the Friedrich-Naumann Stiftung of Germany in cooperation with the European Commission on Human Rights;

(c) Conference on Media and Human Rights (Sintra, Portugal, 29 June-5 July 1992). The Conference will be hosted by the International Academy for Development in Freedom;

(d) Third International Dialogue on the Transition to Global Society: The Transition to a Just Society (Landegg Academy, Switzerland, 7-12 September 1992). The Dialogue is co-sponsored by a number of non-governmental organizations, including the Baha'i International Community, Human Rights Advocates, the Institute of International Education and Development, the International Council of Women and the International Foundation for the Survival and Development of Humanity;

(e) An academic conference on human rights, to be held by the American Society of International Law, is tentatively scheduled for November 1992 at the campus of the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, United States of America;

(f) A Nordic seminar on human rights, to be convened by the Nordic Institutes of Human Rights, is tentatively scheduled to take place in Sweden in January 1993.

(g) Conference on Human Rights Education and Democracy (Montreal, Canada, February 1993). This Conference, which will be convened by UNESCO, will be preceded by three meetings:

(i) Seminar on Academic Freedom (Lund, Sweden, 9-11 March 1992). The Seminar was organized by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law and co-sponsored by UNESCO, the Standing Conference of Rectors, Presidents and Vice-Chancellors of the European Universities, and the World University Service. The report of the Seminar will be published by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute in spring 1992;

(ii) International Conference on Academic Freedom and University Autonomy (Sinaia, Romania, 5-7 May 1992). The Conference will be co-sponsored by the European Centre for Higher Education of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO and the National Rectors' Conference of Romania in cooperation with the Standing Conference of Rectors, Presidents and Vice-Chancellors of the European Universities and the Council of Europe;

(iii) An expert meeting on academic freedom will take place at the Human Rights Centre in Poznan, Poland in November 1992.

5. The Centre for Human Rights has been informed of several additional initiatives aiming at meetings which may further contribute to the preparatory process leading to the World Conference. The Centre will inform the Preparatory Committee about these events as soon as the details are available.